

State of California

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

1121 L STREET, SUITE 600 SACRAMENTO 95814 TELEPHONE (916) 323-0611 FAX (916) 323-7132

For Immediate Release September 9, 2008 Contact: Kearsten Shepherd 916.327.1088

Secretary of Education Issues Statement on 2007-08 California High School Exit Exam Results

Sacramento, Calif. – Secretary of Education David Long today issued the following statement regarding the release of the 2007-08 California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) results:

"This year marks the first year that CAHSEE was a requirement for all high school graduates, making this year's results unique. It is important that our students meet these standards for graduation and are leaving high school with the level of skill needed for future success. It's promising to see that more and more first-time test takers are passing the exit exam and starting out better prepared, but we must continue to move forward in closing the achievement gap in our schools and providing California students with the appropriate instruction needed to meet the requirements set by CAHSEE. We're committed to providing California students with the tools and support necessary to excel in all areas of instruction and will continue to aggressively work toward this goal."

###